

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A method of preventing the loss of a portable communication device, comprising the steps of:

monitoring an acceleration profile at the portable communication device; and  
entering a secure mode which limits access to the portable communication device upon determining the acceleration profile matches a predetermined profile.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of transmitting location information from the portable communication device to one among a predetermined phone number, a predetermined voicemail, a predetermined email, and a remote requestor having entered a predetermined access code.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of alerting using at least one among a visual alert, an audible alert, a mechanical alert, and a tactile alert upon determining the acceleration profile matches the predetermined profile.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined profile is a profile representing at least one among a dropped portable communication device and a portable communication device that has not been in motion for an extended period of time.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the method comprises the step of obtaining location information using at least one among GPS Information, time of arrival techniques, and last known location information.

6. The method of claim 2, wherein the method comprises transmitting a time stamp along with location information.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the steps of monitoring at the portable communication device for a predetermined safe zone and monitoring for a predetermined battery threshold.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the method further comprises the step at the portable communication device of transmitting a location of the portable communication device to a predetermined destination when the portable communication device is outside the predetermined safe zone and when a battery is below the predetermined battery threshold.

9. A method of detecting the loss of a portable communication device, comprising the steps of:

monitoring an acceleration profile of the portable communication device;

determining from the acceleration profile if the portable communication device has been dropped and picked up; and

entering the portable communication device into a security mode if the phone has been dropped only and a predetermined amount of time has lapsed.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the security mode comprises the step of locking the portable communication device from further use until a security code is entered.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the security mode comprises the step of alerting a user through at least one among an audio, a visual, a tactile, and a mechanical alert.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises the step of determining a geographical location of the portable communication device using at least one among GPS Information, time of arrival techniques, and last known location information.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the security mode comprises the step of alerting a user of the portable communication device by sending the geographical information over the air to at least one among a predetermined phone number, a voicemail system, and an email account.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the security mode comprises the step of alerting a user of the portable communication device by sending a canned message to at least one among a predetermined phone number, a voicemail system, and an email account.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises the step of determining a location of the portable communication device upon remotely receiving a request for location information using a predetermined passcode.

16. The method of claim 9, wherein the method further comprises the steps of monitoring at the portable communication device for a predetermined safe zone and monitoring for a predetermined battery threshold.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the method further comprises the step at the portable communication device of transmitting a location of the portable communication device to a predetermined destination when the portable communication device is outside the predetermined safe zone and when a battery is below the predetermined battery threshold.

18. A portable communication device, comprising:

a transceiver;

an acceleration sensor coupled to the transceiver; and

a processor coupled to the acceleration sensor, wherein the processor is programmed to:

monitor an acceleration profile of the portable communication device;  
and  
compare the acceleration profile of the portable communication device  
with at least one pre-stored acceleration profile.

19. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the acceleration sensor is an accelerometer.

20. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed to determine from the acceleration profile if the portable communication device has been dropped and picked up within a predetermined time period.

21. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed to entering the portable communication device into a security mode if the phone has been dropped only and a predetermined amount of time has lapsed.

22. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed to lock the portable communication device from further use until a security code is entered.

23. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed to alert a user through at least one among an audio, a visual, a tactile, and a mechanical alert.

24. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed to determine geographical information using at least one among GPS Information, time of arrival techniques, and last known location information.

25. The portable communication device of claim 24, wherein the processor is further programmed to alert the user of the loss of the portable communication device by sending the geographical information over the air to at least one among a predetermined phone number, a voicemail system, and an email account.

26. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed to monitor for a predetermined safe zone, monitor for a predetermined battery threshold, and transmit a location of the portable communication device to a predetermined destination when the portable communication device is outside the predetermined safe zone and when a battery is below the predetermined battery threshold.

27. The portable communication device of claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed to inhibit transmissions by the portable communication device when the portable communication device is in a predetermined safe zone.